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# The Highlander

Thursday **January 18 2018** | Issue 322

**INSIDE: HIGHLAND STORM PLAYOFFS - PAGE 16**

**FREE**



Glenn Springer snapped this photo of a man surrounded by open water at the north end of Mountain Lake in Minden on Jan. 11. It was a balmy seven degrees Celsius and raining at the time, according to Springer. OPP are warning caution on area lakes. See page 2. *Photo submitted.*

## Minden ratepayers looking at big tax hike

**By Lisa Gervais**

With cliches such as “coming home to roost” and “time to pay the piper,” Minden Hills councillors left their second 2018 budget meeting on Jan. 11 with a proposed 8.73 per cent tax increase.

They’ll come back for round three Feb. 8 but the majority of councillors (Ron Nesbitt was absent) indicated that number isn’t likely to decrease much in between now and then.

Most of them were on board with the figure, saying it was catch-up time for

the municipality, with the exception of Coun. Pam Sayne, who found the increase unpalatable and didn’t hesitate to voice her concerns.

It’s by far the biggest increase being discussed at any council table so far this budget year. The county is looking at a 2.66 per cent hike and Highlands East’s draft budget was 2.44 per cent earlier this week. Dysart et al and Algonquin Highlands have yet to hold their first budget meetings.

Minden councillors came into the meeting after a late December first draft

pegged at a 9.73 per cent increase.

The “elephants in the room,” as Mayor Brent Devolin referred to them last week, were the environmental and roads departments.

Problems at the Scotch Line landfill, that have included two Provincial Officer’s Orders in 2017, and the need to catch up on long-neglected roadworks, are driving more than half of that proposed tax increase, approximately 3.07 per cent for the landfill and 3.49 per cent for roads.

However, the landfill costs were trimmed at last week’s meeting with a decision to

possibly close the landfill in summer one day a week, Wednesdays, as they currently do in winter; remediating one leachate seep in 2018 and one in 2019, versus both in 2018, and reducing the purchase of new covered bins by one, so buying two instead of three.

The roads department also trimmed its costs from the last budget round, for example, recommending reducing five kilometres of roadside brushing and culvert costs.

See “Council” on page 2

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# Highlander news

## Council says it's the 'responsible' thing to do

Continued from page 1

CAO and treasurer Lorrie Blanchard spent more than half-an-hour presenting the second draft budget before the microphones were opened to councillors.

She noted nearly \$3 million (\$2,698,715) is being transferred from reserves this year, with the bulk of that going to the new, \$2M fire hall.

Some of the add-ons this year include that extra quarter-of-a-million-dollars in landfill costs, more money being used from roads reserves and the added cost of the fall municipal election (\$65,000). She noted there will also be an Andre Lepine sculpture installed at the Minden Hills Cultural Centre.

Devolin said many of Ontario's 444 municipalities are "behind the eight-ball" in asset management and long-term sustainability" but Minden has a "footing in a sustainable position."

He said that when he was elected more than three years ago, he said stresses would come that would make it difficult to keep single digit tax increases. "We see the real number of what it costs to do business." And while he'd love to deliver a sub-five per cent increase in an election year, it wouldn't be responsible, he said.

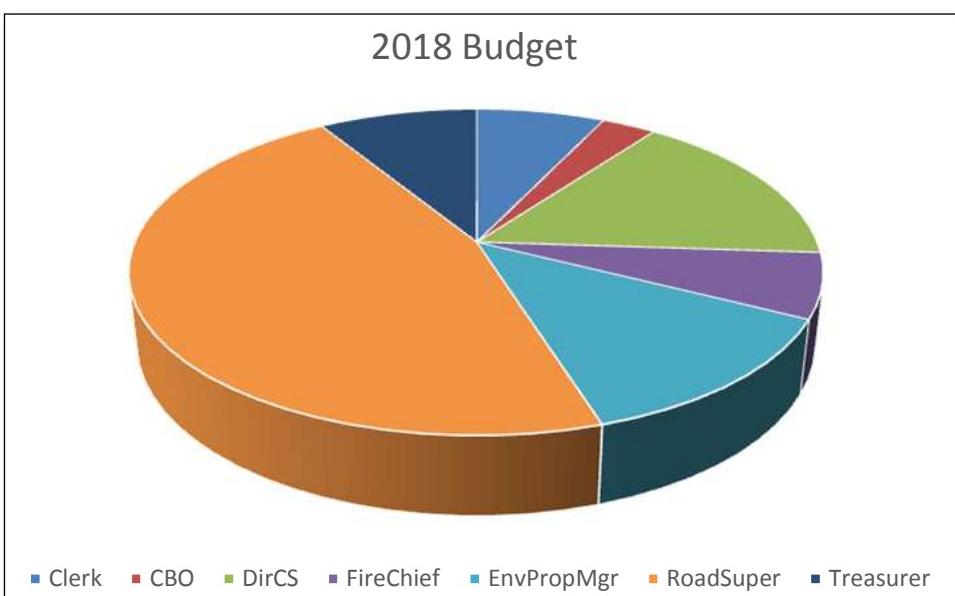
With roads, he said the costs reflected the

province's infrastructure gap and that lack of provincial government funding "is a reality that is coming home to roost ... it's time to pay the piper."

As for escalating landfill costs, he added, "we knew it was coming, but the speed has caught us by surprise, but we've collectively made a commitment to turn the page and that we're going to do better."

Sayne said some Minden Hills councillors sit on committees that deal with homelessness and lack of affordable housing, and said the township has a high percentage of people on fixed incomes, so "we are challenging those living close to the edge ... and pushing more people to the margins." She said there is a lot of talk about ageing in place but raising taxes by nine per cent means people can't afford to age in place. She said the pressures are creating an underground economy, where, for example, people are forced to rent out lodgings to pay taxes and utilities. She added there is no money for the Bob Lake boat lunch in the budget to date, yet those residents are facing nearly a 10 per cent tax increase.

Coun. Jean Neville said "I don't feel too sorry for people living on the lake." She said she chose to live on a lake, so doesn't complain about her taxes. "I don't think



they're astronomical." She said residents of other cities and towns pay more a year for telephone, internet and cable than Minden people do for property taxes.

Deputy Mayor Cheryl Murdoch said there was business to attend to and the council "can't leave us in a position where next year we're in a real mess." She said the days of upper tier help "are pretty well over for us. If we want to maintain services, it goes back to your tax base."

Coun. Lisa Schell said she wasn't happy about a nearly nine per cent increase but the hens have come home to roost and councillors must be responsible.

Coun. Jeanne Anthon said she'd been part of Minden Hills governments that didn't want to raise taxes in past, and that was a "negative approach to our responsibility. This budget is reflecting our community needs and addressing those as well as showing some restraint."

## OPP briefs

### Ice safety tips

This week, Ontario Provincial Police provided ice safety tips.

They include:

- Check the weather. Avoid ice-related activities on warm or stormy days.
- Check ice conditions. The Lifesaving Society recommends a minimum ice thickness of 10 cm (four inches) for a single person to walk, ice fish, or cross-country ski on.
- Avoid vehicle travel on ice.
- Never go onto the ice alone. A buddy may be able to rescue you or go for help if necessary.
- Having the proper equipment such as a floater suit, ice picks, a throw line, GPS and/or cellphone are extremely important should you break through the ice surface. Responding emergency services take time to ready and get on scene, and do come at a cost as there is always a risk of injury or worse to emergency responders who may never forget the incident.
- Do not drink alcohol or consume other drugs. Alcohol/drugs impair judgement and reduces your body's ability to stay warm in cold conditions. (Mark Arike)

Memorial Arena on Parkside Street. They stole cash and did damage to the building.

In addition, police say someone broke into the Minden United Church on Newcastle Street between Dec. 12 at 8 a.m. and Dec. 13 at 8:10 a.m. They say cash and a 50-inch Sharp television were taken.

The OPP are seeking assistance from the public. If anyone has any information regarding these investigations, they are being asked to contact the Haliburton Highlands OPP at 1-888-310-1122. Should you wish to remain anonymous, you may call Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-8477 (TIPS), or submit a tip online at khcs.ca where you may be eligible to receive a cash reward of up to \$2,000. (Lisa Gervais)

### RIDE campaign results

During this year's Festive RIDE campaign, local OPP did 95 RIDE campaigns in Haliburton County. They said that during the Nov. 24-Jan. 2 campaign, two people were charged with drinking and driving offences.

In addition, one driver had a license suspension for registering in the warm range, having a blood alcohol concentration level between 50-80 mg of alcohol in 100 ml of blood, police said.

Even though the campaign is over, OPP remind drivers that drinking and driving is never a good mix. They said impaired driving is the number one criminal cause of death in Canada. They added that checks continue throughout the year on roads, trails and waterways "at anytime and anywhere" in Haliburton County. (Lisa Gervais)

### Two break-and-enters investigated in Minden

The OPP are looking into two recent break-and-enters in Minden.

In a news release, they say the most recent occurred overnight between Jan. 9 and 10. Someone broke into the S.G. Nesbitt

## Minden woman found guilty of animal cruelty

A 48-year-old woman from Minden Hills has been convicted of animal cruelty under the Ontario SPCA Act following an investigation that led to the removal of four horses in her care.

According to a news release, on Jan. 4, Shauna Hie was convicted in a Kawartha Lakes Provincial Offences Court of permitting distress to an animal. She was sentenced to 10-year prohibition on owing or caring for any equine animals and was ordered to pay \$2,000 in restitution to the Ontario SPCA.

On March 2, 2017, Ontario SPCA officers attended a residence in Minden Hills after receiving a tip about the welfare of horses on the property. Officers observed four horses confined to a small, fenced area without any access to water, hay or other feed. Officers noted that the horses appeared thin and that the hip bones of one horse were clearly visible, protruding from underneath a blanket the horse was wearing.

A veterinary examination determined all of the horses were in poor body condition, with one considered

emaciated. They were also found to be infested with lice and suffering from untreated wounds and poor hoof care. At the recommendation of the veterinarian, the horses were removed by the Ontario SPCA in order to provide them with the necessary care and treatment required.

The horses were surrendered into the care of the Ontario SPCA and, after being returned to good health, three have since found loving homes. A remaining horse and her foal, born in the care of the Ontario SPCA, will soon be available for adoption.

"With resources available to help people who are unable to care for their pets, there really is no excuse when it comes to neglecting to care for your animals," says Alison Green, Senior Inspector, Ontario SPCA. "There will be consequences under the law if you fail to provide appropriate care for your animals or if you fail to take steps to alleviate an animal's suffering."

To report animal cruelty, call the Ontario SPCA's province-wide dispatch centre at 310-SPCA (7722). (Lisa Gervais)



For breaking news, videos and community events visit THEHIGHLANDER.CA

# Highlander news



The Great Haliburton Feed Company will relocate their business to this building at 37 Mallard Rd. Photo by Mark Arike.

## Haliburton feed company gets a new lease on life

By Mark Arike

Only a few days after announcing they would be closing at the end of February, the owners of The Great Haliburton Feed Company have made alternative plans with a local businessman.

"Because of the [media] articles and people talking about it, someone came into the store and said, 'Listen, why don't you call him? I think there's been a change in his plans,'" recalled Maureen Adams, co-owner of the business, in an interview. She phoned the man, Glenn Evans, and he quickly called back with some good news.

"He said, 'yes, definitely' he'll rent it to us," said Adams, who operates the business with her partner, Charles McLeaney.

Evans is the owner of Cedar Winds Design-Build. Last July, he took possession of a property at 37 Mallard Rd. in Haliburton. It was previously home to Contractors Rental Supply. He originally planned to relocate his business from Highland Street there.

"We since have decided to expand at the main street location," said Evans. "We still had this building [on Mallard Road], but it was more than what we needed for our purposes."

Evans has offered the feed company a five-year lease, which is expected to commence March 1. They

will occupy the single-storey section of the building, which is 1,000 sq. ft. Evans will continue to use the two-storey section as a storage and staging area.

"I certainly do feel for their situation, and decided this was something we could help them with," he said.

The property is next door to their current location at The Beer Store plaza. Adams and McLeaney have been leasing the space from Jerry Walker since their original location on Industrial Park Road burned down. The temporary arrangement is coming to an end now that another business (yet to be named) will be moving into Walker's space.

Adams is grateful for the community's outpouring of support and Evans' offer of a solution.

"It's such a relief," she said. "It's been such a rollercoaster."

The feed company has served the community since 1995. It will continue to find homes for stray cats and other animals.

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## County will pay consultant for transportation plan

By Mark Arike

The County of Haliburton will hire a consultant to ensure it has all the bases covered before launching a rural transportation system.

After lengthy conversation during a recent special meeting, council voted to allocate \$50,000 in the 2018 budget to pay for an implementation plan. They decided it would be the right move before applying for a new Ministry of Transportation (MTO) grant program, which is offering municipalities up to \$500,000 over five years. It requires a commitment from the county for all five years, which would commence this year.

Planning director Charlsey White made council aware of the municipal funding stream and sought direction for the next steps.

"I, personally, am a little bit cautious about this because I'm not sure we have enough information," said Deputy Mayor Liz Daniels. "Personally, I'd like to see us work on a plan without making a five-year commit."

While she commended the transportation task force on the work they've done to date, Coun. Carol Moffatt took the same stance as Daniels.

"I don't see it as a fully-formed enough plan to lock us in," said Moffatt.

"You fund a plan; you don't fund an idea." She suggested forming an advisory committee.

Coun. Brent Devolin, who sits on the

rural transportation task force, felt hiring a consultant was the next logical step.

"This isn't saying 'no' to the public," said Devolin. "We'd like to know what we're buying here before we buy. I know the money's enticing ... but I can understand the caution."

The county and the Rural Transportation Options committee spearheaded a rural transportation project a few years ago. They received \$127,000 from the MTO to launch a transportation hub website and phone line, hire a part-time transportation system navigator and create a website called Haliburton Rideshare. Following a transportation summit two years ago, a task force comprised of representatives from many local organizations was formed to determine what transportation models would be a good fit for the area. They prepared a business case, but it only includes transportation options and estimated costs—not an implementation plan.

The transportation models currently recommended include a booked shared ride model that would cost about \$192,000 per year. The second is a blended service model with a bus pegged at \$315,000 per year. Both would operate five days a week.

Council agreed to pursue the book shared option and directed staff to prepare a report on the creation of an advisory committee. The budget item is expected to be finalized at the Jan. 24 meeting.

## Septage field goes to pre-hearing

By Lisa Gervais

Dave Elstone's battle with the Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change (MOECC) – over his spreading field in Algonquin Highlands – was the subject of an Environmental Review Tribunal pre-hearing yesterday (Jan. 17) at the Stanhope Firefighters' Community Hall.

Elstone, of Haliburton Septic Pumping, is appealing a decision by the MOECC to deny the renewal of his environmental compliance renewals for his spreading field. The MOECC was being represented by David Bradley, the district manager for the Peterborough office and his legal council.

A number of other people filled the hall, including all Algonquin Highlands councillors and their lawyer, and representatives of the Maple, Beech and Cameron Lakes Area Property Owners' Association (MBC) as well as a group calling itself Our Grandchildren Matter Too (OGMT). Both are against Elstone's field, at Highway 118 and 25<sup>th</sup> Line Road.

Justin Duncan and Helen Jackson represented the tribunal and the hearing was to establish next steps. Duncan asked the two parties if they had considered mediation and said there was a tribunal mediator available. Concurrently, he said both could prepare for a full hearing. They were asked to give a quick overview of what they would say at a hearing and the



Justin Duncan and Helen Jackson conduct an Environmental Review Tribunal pre-hearing in Algonquin Highlands Jan. 17. Photo by Lisa Gervais.

number of witnesses they expected to call. Other interested parties also wanted to ensure they were represented if the hearing goes ahead.

Elstone said he did not think Bradley's decision to deny renewal was based on science but on pressure applied by the MBC and OGMT. Bradley's lawyer retorted they would bring technical expertise to the table to validate the manager's decision.

Spokesmen for both the MBC and OGMT said they were worried about the environment, including the health of Maple Lake.

Elstone said his sewage hauling business begins again on May 1 and he would like the hearing, and a decision, rendered before that. A date for a hearing had not been set as of press time.

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# Editorial opinion

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Published by The Highlander Newspaper Limited

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Audited Circulation 8,062

(Jan 1 - June 30, 2016)

Canadian Media Circulation Audit - Canadian  
Community Newspapers Association

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To tell the story of Haliburton County each week

To be a source of information and inspiration through stories and ideas

To report on issues, people and events important to the community

To reflect and promote pride in the culture, people and landscape of The Highlands

To encourage Highlanders to believe in themselves, in our community, and in their power to make our place in the world better every day.

## Visioning and budgets go hand-in-hand

When we posted the news to our Facebook page – that Minden Hills council is so far looking at about a nine per cent tax increase for 2018 – the public wasn't happy.

At least the 20-or-so people who commented and shared on our FB page. They hit 'angry' and 'wow' and had some critical things to say.

Now, let's preface this editorial by saying the 2018 budget isn't finalized. Councillors return to the chambers Feb. 8 for a third round of budget talks. However, after sitting through round two, it appeared the majority of councillors were okay with the way talks were going. Mayor Brent Devolin, Deputy-Mayor Cheryl Murdoch, councillors Jean Neville, Jeanne Anthon and Lisa Schell seemed to agree with Devolin that a near double-digit increase is needed this year, and perhaps for many years to come. The only naysayer in the room was Coun. Pam Sayne. (Coun. Ron Nesbitt was not at the meeting).

In some ways, I admire them. It is pretty bold going into an election year with that kind of budget increase. Devolin, himself, admitted he'd far prefer sub-five per cent in a year when voters decide whether he and his present council have cut it over the past four years.

Many of those who commented on our Facebook post don't think this council has cut it. They say the township has been mismanaged, particularly the Scotch Line landfill, which is helping to drive the big

tax increase. The other big ticket item is the township's roads.

Why, these taxpayers ask, should they have to pay for the current and past mismanagement?

They have a point to some extent. However, past Minden councils have not done their successors any favours by opting for small tax increases in the past. The township's infrastructure has aged. Sure, they'll blame the province, saying it isn't giving them enough money anymore. They're right but the days of upper-tier support have been gone awhile. This isn't news.

The way some councillors talked about the increase was a bit worrying. A few said they had absolutely no pity for those on the water. They've got money, they can pay. Sayne was the only one to really stand up for that group. For example, she said the Bob Lake folks could see a 10 per cent tax hike but council hasn't promised them their \$30,000 boat launch.

She was the only one to really stand up for the bulk of ratepayers who aren't fat cats, and for whom a nine per cent increase would be immense. Council's auditor, Oscar Poloni, only told this same council a few months ago that half of its population is on a fixed income. Where will this vastly higher than cost of living increase come from there?

Yes ... council is caught between a rock and a hard place. But, is there wiggle room for this year and years to come? They've

all but finished building a new \$2M fire hall so there's no turning back on that project. But they do have to ask themselves if \$6.5 million for an arena upgrade is really necessary in this financial climate. After all, many residents are not going to get the swimming pool or possibly the walking track that they desired, so maybe that project can revert to option A, a fix-up, for now, in hopes some provincial or federal government money may be forthcoming in future. And, do Minden ratepayers think we really need an Andre Lepine statue at the cultural centre and gallery? What else is on the books that might be just too pie-in-the-sky for a council of this size at this time?

Visioning sessions and budgets go together well. It's not too late for Minden Hills council to revisit its big picture for five or 10 years down the track and reassess its current budget. It's not about the fact it's an election year, it's about the ability of people to pay for the services that they have now or may have in future.

If council can convince them they need to raise taxes nine per cent or our roads will go to hell in a handbasket, or assure them that the spending on Scotch Line is justified, then everyone will be on the same page.



By Lisa Gervais

## Not a great start

The New Year's baby is going to be a teenager before I set down my trenchant observations on 2018. You see, I have some leftover business from 2017 to deal with first.

Sadly, I had to cancel my order for the Lamborghini. The pension windfall I was counting on was a bit beneath my expectations. You'll recall that last year I received notification from the Ontario Teachers' Pension Plan that, because of my age, I was entitled to a payout based on the single day of supply teaching I had done back in April, 1975 while residing in Cochrane, in northern Ontario. I had been forced to contribute \$2.44 to the pension plan way back then, and promptly forgot about it. They couldn't tell me over the phone how much to expect, as it was outside of the parameters of their computer program, but hinted I would not be disappointed. Well, the jackpot arrived in the mail in mid-December. My hand trembled as I tore open the envelope. After 43 years of that \$2.44 compounding itself, the gross payout was ... wait for it ... \$66.63!

Not the windfall I was expecting, hence the cancelled auto order. In fact, not all of

that \$66.63 was mine. The tax payable was \$6.66, leaving me with \$59.96. So, while the anticipation was entertaining, the final outcome was perhaps a little bit of a let-down. No fancy car ... wild vacation plans grounded ... there goes the mink. But, as with the \$20 bill you find in the pocket of the jacket you haven't worn for a year, it is a bit of an unexpected, year-end bonus, for which I am grateful.

Now onto 2018 and two resolutions of consequence that I have undertaken, both of which are already tattered by events of the first days of the year.

This year, I wanted to embrace winter more and learn to enjoy the season that truly defines this country. Unfortunately, the embrace was actually the other way round as old man winter wrapped his steely tendrils around me and asked, "how do you like me now!?" I don't recall such an extended period of searing cold and wind that descended on us at the start of the year. The weather certainly tested my Canadian mettle and made me rethink my proposed love affair with the white season.

My second resolution was to limit myself to just 15 minutes of Trump a day. Whether it is reading the papers, watching TV,

listening to the radio or simply attempting to have a conversation with friends, any topic about the president quickly sucks all the air out of the room and leaves my head hurting. The master manipulator and his acolytes have mastered the domination of the 24-hour news cycle. The effects quickly spill over into daily life, where any interaction includes a Trump focused segment that can be interminable if you let it. There are more important things in the world and our community to discuss. And besides, he is not my president.

But, why, oh, why, does he seem to mesmerize us so? I'll leave it to history to unravel this Gordian Knot, and in the meantime endeavor to enforce a 15-minute Trump cordon sanitaire.

So, in retrospect, the tiny payout at the end of last year, doesn't look so bad when compared to the days of 2018. Happy New Year everyone!



By Jack Brezina

## PHOTO CONTEST

**The Highlander** is looking for your best photos for inclusion in this year's **The Highlander Handbook**. We are looking for pictures that show the best the Highlands has to offer in all of its seasons. The best submission will be printed on this year's cover and others inside. We are looking for good quality, high resolution photos (JPEG, 300 dpi).

Deadline Feb. 23, 2018 - by 5 p.m.

Please ensure the photographer's name and contact details are in the email.  
Send entries to editor@thehighlander.ca

# Editorial opinion

## Eye on the street: How do you feel about drug use in Head Lake Park?

**Mark Roberts**

Eagle Lake

It's a very dangerous thing that needs to be taken care of.

**Marilyn Hewitt**

Kennisis Lake

I'm not surprised.

**Jack Russel**

Percy Lake

I'm certainly not surprised. I've heard there are issues with drugs among young people.

**Myia Newton**

Lochlin

To me, it's one of those things that happens. Drugs are a problem no matter where you live.

**Brian Hamblly**

Eagle Lake

You can't stop it, so anything you can do to make it safer is an advantage to everyone.

*Photos and interviews by Mark Arike*

## Letters

### Thanks from the 4Cs

**Dear editor,**

As we begin a new year, it is important to look back at 2017 and recognize the good year we experienced at the 4Cs and to say thank you.

Thank you to our volunteers. We have 40-plus dedicated volunteers at the store and food bank and without them we couldn't do most of what we do.

Thank you to our Lily Ann Store donors and customers. We have been able to successfully ride the wave of the popularity of thrift stores. Increased revenue from the store allows us to purchase food for the food bank and to assist clients with additional help such as heat, medical needs,

etc. It also allows us to help by partnering with other community initiatives.

Thank you to our donors. We are blessed to receive clothing (mitts, scarves), toys, food and cash from a wide variety of donors. We couldn't do it without the help from schools, churches, first responders, clubs, businesses, media and a large number of caring, generous individuals. As one of our tearful clients said at our Christmas voucher/toy distribution "... you just made my Christmas."

On behalf of the 4Cs and our clients, a sincere thank you,

**David Ogilvie**  
**Board Chair**

### PHOTO OF THE WEEK



Guenter Horst captured this image during a recent Sunday afternoon drive. Photo submitted.

### Deer with an arrow in its head

**Dear editor,**

I don't have a problem with hunting. There are qualifications, however. It should be for food, not trophies, done responsibly, and the hunter should know what he is shooting at. The hunting should occur in a proper forest, and only on property the hunter has permission to hunt on. Most importantly, the animal, if wounded, must be tracked down and killed in a humane manner.

I'm not a hunter, but have been shot at

four times on my own property in the town and had several deer shot on my property, which is posted no hunting and lies within the town. In one case, the hunter was pursuing the deer between houses and shooting into a built-up area. Then, there was the hunter who shot a local's pet ducks on the river in town and the hunter that shot the jaw off a little girl's goat and left it in the field. I recall a conversation a few years back with a hunter. He had shot four bear in four days. Actually he had put an arrow in

four bears in four days, but never actually killed one.

I do realize that there are lots of responsible hunters, and the above does not reflect the majority of hunters, however it doesn't change the reality that there are a lot of people who shouldn't be allowed to hunt.

There's a bigger problem, however. Our government makes millions in hunting and fishing licenses.

Nor do they deal with injured or orphaned

birds, bear, deer or anything else. This all seems to fall to other groups who operate out of compassion, with donations from the public. If the ministry sold licenses to hunt deer, and this is the result, they should be cleaning up this mess. This deer's death needs to be humane and the MNRF needs to take responsibility for activities it licenses.

**Keith W. Stata,  
Kinmount**

### Summer lovin' in mid-winter

The wind is blowing icy blasts across the lake and as I stoop, ankles and knees ache, fighting the steep gradient on which I'm standing, my gloves are soaked through and my hands numb with cold. My waterproof pants are ripped all down one side and my leg is frigid and wet. The constant, almost freezing rain has finally soaked its way through my winter jacket, hooded sweat top and thermal underwear and I shudder as I feel it running down my back. And still there's another three hours to go. This could be the worst day ever but somehow me and a couple of other chaps are having a fine old time.

Laying shingles on a garage roof in mid-winter is not your average person's idea of fun, I have to admit. And, during last

week's torrential rain and flash freeze it could be seen as downright foolhardy but there we were strapped to the windward side of the roof, bent double, nailing down half frozen asphalt and singing at the tops of our voices to 'Summer Lovin'. If Olivia and John could have heard us they would have cringed (that's Newton John and Travolta, not our clients in the cottage next door) but we didn't care because against the odds life was great and we were in fine spirits.

That was last week and now I realize who I have to blame for my aching back and frost withered fingers. You see, I work for a fellow who has a superpower. He doesn't have the ability to read minds, nor leap tall buildings in a single bound. He's not got

spidey senses and he can't move stuff with his mind. What he can do though is make you unerringly cheery almost all of the time. No matter what the job, and we've had some crappy ones. No matter how horrible the weather, how difficult the task, he can put you in a great mood and make you have fun while doing it.

Even when you realize that he's doing it! Even when you're stood on a roof, soaked to the skin, as the ice rain starts and you turn to your colleague, who's now belting out the lyrics to Saturday Night Fever, and ask, "why are we enjoying this?" Even when you see your predicament for the shit show that it is. Even then, his superpower doesn't wane (no he's not Bruce Wayne) and you carry on with a smile on your face

### The Outsider



and a cheesy song in your heart.

Now, some of you will undoubtedly be thinking I'm either lying or a lunatic. You may be right about the latter but I speak the truth and I'm very grateful for my boss and his superpower that is a constantly cheery disposition. He makes the challenges of hard work and a harsh environment pale into insignificance and the 40 hours each week that we battle through it somehow fun. So, bring it on Canadian winter, we've got you licked. There's no stopping us because our boss is Happy Man and we know the words to way too many songs from the '70s!

**By Will Jones**

# Highlander business



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# Highlander business

## SIRCH program gets them ready for retail

By Mark Arike

A new pilot program being launched by SIRCH Community Services will help county residents get the skills they need to start a job in the retail sector.

Dubbed "Ready for Retail," the 16-week program will teach up to 15 people the fundamentals of the retail industry, with an emphasis on customer service. SIRCH, a non-profit organization, received a \$28,000 grant from the City of Kawartha Lakes to make it happen.

The program's structure is similar to another SIRCH initiative known as Cook It Up. Now heading into its fourth year, it provides trainees the skills needed to work in the food services industry. It culminates with trainees preparing meals and serving them to customers at a local restaurant.

After participants have received in-class training in the new program, they will open and operate the Thrift Warehouse on Mondays—the day of the week it's normally closed—beginning in March. The 8,000-square-foot building on Industrial Park Road is managed by SIRCH.

"I just looked around to see what else we might do," said Gena Robertson, executive director of SIRCH, referring to the initial idea. "Last summer, employers were desperately looking for people to hire but were having difficulty with that. Yet there are people underemployed or unemployed who probably could get those roles if their skills were increased, so it just seemed like a good match."

One of the big reasons Cook It Up was so successful was because it included

interaction with the public, said Robertson. She said in the last three years, 75 per cent of its participants found employment.

Training coordinator Dianne Woodcock was hired earlier this month to oversee Ready for Retail. Her background is in hospitality, food and beverage and the retirement industry. She has worked at Country Rose Garden Centre in Haliburton and comes with management experience.

Woodcock recognizes the importance of delivering excellent customer service in the county, which is vital in a tourist destination, she said.

From Feb. 5 to May 14, participants will commit to two days per week. This includes in-class sessions and hands-on training at the Thrift Warehouse. SIRCH is partnering with the John Howard Society of Kawartha Lakes and Fleming CREW Employment Centre for classroom training. Training will include workplace safety, sensitivity and diversity training, handling cash, resume writing and interviewing skills.

They also plan to work with local retailers for the third half of the program.

"Hopefully retailers will come in and chat with them about some of their philosophies about customer service," said Woodcock, adding that a lot of interest has already been generated in the business community. "And as well, maybe the students will go and have a tour of their facility to get more of a realistic view of what it's like out there."

Participants will receive a certificate upon completion of the program. One of the goals is to find them employment in the Highlands, so they don't have to leave. That also makes life easier for employers, since



Store lead Jenn Allen moves some items inside the Thrift Warehouse. Participants in the Ready for Retail program will run the store on Mondays, starting in March. Photo by Mark Arike.

they don't need to look elsewhere.

"I know there's a push to hire people outside the county. If we've got people here, let's hire here," said Robertson.

Woodcock and Robertson encourage the public to make their way to the Thrift Warehouse once the trainees take over. It will be open 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Mondays.

"We're going to have lots of fun with

that," said Woodcock.

They are planning giveaways, activities, discounts and freebies those days, according to a release.

Anyone interested in signing up for the program should do so this month. Call SIRCH at 705-457-1742 or email info@sirch.on.ca.

## Photography entrepreneur 'vibrating with happiness'

By Lisa Gervais

Caitlin Dunlop is passionate about photography – so passionate that she's opened her own business based out of Minden at the age of just 22.

It's a leap of faith ... and it's making her very happy right now.

Dunlop was born and raised in Haliburton. She attended Haliburton Highlands Secondary School. After graduating, she moved to British Columbia, but is back home. She was looking for work and talked to Cheryl Smith, who had a photo studio and business in Minden's downtown. She wanted to know if Smith needed some help because she wanted to get her foot in the door.

"And, she actually mentioned that she was selling her business and I decided to buy it," Dunlop told *The Highlander* in a recent interview.

Her dad is local artist, Kevin Dunlop, and he's been instrumental in getting her interested in photography.

*At a young age, for his art, he would go out and do photography. I just wanted to hang out with my dad and ended up doing some photography with him ... that grew into more of a passion."*

"At a young age, for his art, he would go out and do photography. I just wanted to hang out with my dad and ended up doing some photography with him ... that grew into more of a passion."

For now, Dunlop said she is self-taught but is planning to go to school in the fall, somewhere close, so she can keep her business going.

Asked what her hopes and dreams are for the business, she paused.

"I don't even know ... this is my passion, just doing it at all is my hopes and dreams ...

I'm vibrating with happiness right now."

She's open to any photography work at the moment, weddings, portraits, couples, families, newborns ... pretty much everything.

"Once I get a bigger client base, I can be more picky," she said.

Contact Caitlin at c.dunlop@hotmail.ca, or on Instagram: caitlin\_dunlop\_photography or cait\_dunlop\_street\_photography or on Facebook: Caitlin Dunlop Photography.

**Caitlin Dunlop**  
photography



Caitlin Dunlop is passionate about photography. Photo submitted.

## Time to apply for student job funding

The deadline to apply for money through the Canada Summer Jobs program is quickly approaching.

Those interested in applying have until Feb. 2 to submit applications, MPP Jamie Schmale said in a recent media release.

Canada Summer Jobs provides funding to not-for-profit organizations, public-sector employers and small businesses with 50 or fewer employees. It helps them to create summer job opportunities for young people aged 15 to 30 who are full-time students intending to return to school in the next school year.

"I encourage small businesses, and organizations to apply for funding. This program can benefit both employers and students looking to gain experience while earning money for school," said Schmale.

Last summer, \$680,791 was received in Haliburton-Kawartha Lakes-Brock and dispersed to more than 99 different employers for a total of 306 youth jobs.

For more information on the Canada Summer Jobs program, visit [canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/services/funding/canada-summer-jobs.html](http://canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/services/funding/canada-summer-jobs.html) (Lisa Gervais)

# Highlander health



Tina Kiiver, community outreach coordinator, holds one of the new units and wears a pendant with a button that puts out a call for help. Photo by Mark Arike

## Community support clients get new emergency units

By Mark Arike

Haliburton Highlands Health Services (HHHS) is currently upgrading its emergency response system units for 140 residents who rely on them. The new units will allow for two-way communication with dispatch services, making it easier to determine if an ambulance is needed.

The total cost is \$24,000, which was paid for by the Haliburton Highlands Health Services Foundation.

Central dispatch will be able to "communicate directly with the client as a first response to assess the situation," according to a report from HHHS. "Older units do not have this feature and often result in EMS being unnecessarily dispatched when a family member or neighbour (who is a listed contact) could have responded to the situation."

They also say these models "have fewer ongoing service demands and will result in fewer service calls."

The units are available to current and future clients of HHHS's Community Support Services division. It provides a range of services to seniors and adults with disabilities.

If a client falls, for example, they simply push a button found in a pendant or bracelet. This triggers a signal at a central call centre and they then call emergency contacts on the client's file.

Stephanie MacLaren, vice-president of HHHS Community Programs, credited the foundation for making the upgrades possible.

"We are very grateful for this partnership and pleased to be able to offer a higher quality of service to our community with these enhancements," said MacLaren.

Clients are charged \$25 for installation and a monthly fee of \$25. Subsidized rates are available for eligible clients. For more information, call Community Support Services at 705-457-2941.



HHHS staff, along with board president Dave Bonham and HHHSF board members, surround the new bone densitometry equipment. Photo submitted.

## Bone density machine up and running

A machine that can measure bone density, like an X-ray, is now up and running at the Minden hospital. The equipment was purchased with \$175,000 raised by the Haliburton Highlands Health Services Foundation.

"I'm thrilled that we're now able to offer bone densitometry services within Haliburton County, so that residents no longer have to drive out of town for this service," said Carolyn Plummer, president and CEO of Haliburton Highlands Health Services, in a news release. "As we're growing as a rural health hub, this is another opportunity to increase access to

more services locally."

Lisa Tompkins, executive director of the foundation, thanked the community for their financial contributions.

"The generosity of donors throughout the Haliburton Highlands, and beyond, is demonstrated again in this successful fundraising effort," said Tompkins.

The equipment can be used as a baseline study to monitor those who are at high risk of developing osteoporosis and monitor the effectiveness of treatment after diagnosis. It's available to patients via physician referrals. (Mark Arike)

**For breaking news, videos and community events visit [THEHIGHLANDER.CA](http://THEHIGHLANDER.CA)**

## INFORMATION PAGE

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Every player MUST wear protective gear on the ice. Every player MUST have a waiver signed (by a parent/guardian if under 18 years of age) (Staff reserves the right to deny participation).

### Meeting and Events

Jan 25 - 9:00 am, combined COTW/Council Meeting, Minden Council Chambers

Jan 25 - 3:30 pm, Special Council Meeting, Minden Council Chambers

For Council, Boards & Advisory Committee meetings, visit [www.mindenhills.ca](http://www.mindenhills.ca)

Please Note: Council meetings are reduced to one meeting during the month of January.

### Notice Special Meeting of Council

Take notice there will be a Special Meeting of Council held on Thursday January 25, 2018 at 3:30pm in the Minden Hills Council Chambers located at 7 Milne Street, Minden ON.

The purpose of the meeting will be for discussions regarding a Vision and Mission Statement, and SWOT Analysis (strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats) as part of the creation of the **Economic Development Strategic Plan** for the Township of Minden Hills, which will include members of the internal working group and will be facilitated by Jay Amer of Amer and Associates, Consultant for the project.

If you have any questions, please contact:  
Dawn Newhook, Clerk  
Township of Minden Hills  
705-286-1260 ext. 205  
[dnewhook@mindenhills.ca](mailto:dnewhook@mindenhills.ca)

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Keep anything that can burn a safe distance away from wood stoves and fireplaces. Allow ashes to cool before placing in a metal container with a lid. Store the container outside of the home or garage.

### Request for Proposal

RFP #CSD 18-01 – Replacement of Kitchen Cabinets, Countertops and Bathroom Vanities—Minden Hills Community Centre. Submission deadline is Jan 31, 2018 by 12:00 noon. Visit [www.mindenhills.ca/tenders/](http://www.mindenhills.ca/tenders/) for more information.

### Notice - Proposed Changes to Procedural By-law

Take Notice that the Council of the Township of Minden Hills will be considering changes to its Procedural By-law during their January 25, 2018 Regular Council Meeting.

The proposed changes include minor housekeeping and procedural revisions, required as part of the passing of Bill 68 – Modernizing Ontario's Legislation Act, 2017.

For comments or questions, please contact:  
Dawn Newhook, Clerk  
Township of Minden Hills  
705-286-1260 ext. 205  
[dnewhook@mindenhills.ca](mailto:dnewhook@mindenhills.ca)

# Highlander outdoors

## Wolf specialist faces snarly crowd at HHOA AGM

By Lisa Gervais

Haliburton County residents, including Curry Bishop, didn't mince words with Brent Patterson, a Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF) wolf specialist during the Haliburton Highlands Outdoors Association's (HHOA) recent annual general meeting.

Patterson, along with MNRF Minden supervisor, David May, were guest speakers last month's gathering.

Bishop, 86, said his family's been hunting and fishing the same area for 100 years now and always eaten off the land.

However, he thinks the MNRF has mismanaged a decision last summer to declare the Algonquin Wolf an endangered species in the park. Since it, and coyotes, can't be hunted, it's put the deer population at risk, he says. Further, he thinks nobody at the MNRF is listening.

"We don't have any deer. It is absolute nonsense about the wolves in the park," Bishop said.

Patterson told the crowd, which included people who reported livestock such as horses being attacked, that he recognizes it is a contentious issue and people are passionate about it, but the research indicates the presence of Algonquin Wolves in diminished numbers, an estimated 500 in the park and immediate surrounds.

He said in June, 2016, the province of Ontario up-listed the Algonquin Wolf from threatened to a species at risk.

He said an arms-length body, named the Committee on the Status of Species at Risk in Ontario, made that decision on sound

scientific research. As a result, he said there were additional areas of protection added, which means no hunting or trapping of Algonquin Wolves or coyotes, since it is difficult to distinguish the two.

The tricky bit has been around the coyotes, he conceded, but asked hunters in the room, that when they set snares, how they know they'll catch a coyote and not an Algonquin wolf.

He said "finding a way in future to manage the landscape to favour wolves over coyotes" is a ministry challenge now and in the immediate future.

He noted Algonquin Wolf research is continuing. A draft recovery strategy is expected to be released in the new year.

Environmentalist Leora Berman spoke out at the meeting. She said the ministry has to do a better job of educating the public, since wolf population declines are also about decreased habitat. She said establishing more intact habitats is the bigger piece of



MNRF wolf specialist Brent Patterson gives a presentation on wolves at the HHOA AGM.  
Photo by Lisa Gervais.

the puzzle, "instead of making the hunter the enemy."

Others said the coyote population is getting out of control and they're worried

about their safety and the safety of their livestock and domestic animals.

But Patterson told them, "you are still within your rights to protect your property."

## Outdoors association will use funding for mobile classroom

By Mark Arike

The Haliburton Highlands Outdoors Association (HHOA) will be able to launch an outdoors club with a \$25,000 grant from the federal government.

On Monday, local MP Jamie Schmale announced the HHOA is one of 10 organizations in the Haliburton-Kawartha Lakes-Brock riding to receive funding from the New Horizons for Seniors Program (NHSP). Nearly \$220,000 will

be distributed, with grants ranging from \$9,700 to \$25,000.

"We are very fortunate," said HHOA vice-president Rusty Rustenburg.

The money will be used to set up a mobile classroom that will travel around the county to teach young people about the environment. It will also go toward fixing up the HHOA's portable classroom.

Rustenburg said the Haliburton Highlands CARP chapter was "very supportive and instrumental in obtaining the grant." Its

educational plan was created by Barrie Martin of Yours Outdoors.

Schmale said the NHSP "ensures that seniors can benefit from the quality of life in their community and also contribute to it through participation in social activities and active living."

The Dorset Lions Club is the only other organization in the county that will receive money. It will get \$25,000 for its Centennial Park Project.



### Agnew's proves lucky for Catch the Ace

It only took seven weeks for another grand prize winner to be announced in the Haliburton Highlands Outdoors Association's (HHOA) Catch the Ace lottery. On Dec. 27, Dave and Michelle Bridges of Harcourt won \$1,220 when their ticket was drawn and their envelope (22) contained the ace of spades. Friends bought the ticket for them at Agnew's General Store in Wilberforce, which is also where Margaret MacFarlane, the winner of \$11,061 in the first draw, purchased her ticket. Proceeds from the ongoing lottery support the HHOA, Canoe FM and the Haliburton Highlands Resource Centre. (Mark Arike)

Pictured above: Dave and Michelle Bridges with a cheque for \$1,220. Photo submitted.



Dan Dekay (left) and Mark Taylor, from North American Fur Auctions in North Bay, grade hides for the fur handling competition at the trappers workshop in Minden Jan. 14. Photo by Walt Griffin.



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# Highland Storm



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A storm player falls to his knees while battling for puck. Photo by Lisa Gervais.

## Storm reports

### JoAnne Sharpley's Source for Sports/Haliburton Family Medical Centre Peewees

On Jan. 13, the Storm headed to Parry Sound to play in the MPS Tournament.

The peewees played the Huntsville Otters in their first game and despite trying everything they could, fell 5-0. The Storm faced the South Muskoka Bears in their second game. The Storm opened the scoring with a goal by Gage Hutchinson, assisted by Austin Boylan. The Bears tied it but the Storm scored two more to take the lead 3-1. Goals by Sawyer Boutin, assisted by Kyan Hall, and Austin Boylan, assisted by Hutchinson and Kaine Brannigan.

The Bears scored two in the second to tie it 3-3 heading into the third.

The Bears scored first but the Storm scored two more goals, by Hutchinson, unassisted, and Brannigan, assisted by Evan Armstrong and Avery Degeer. The Bears scored with 57 seconds left in the third to take the game to three-on-three overtime. Despite playing very hard, the Storm fell 6-5.

The Storm played the Parry Sound Shamrocks the third

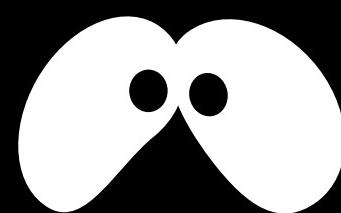
game of the day. The Storm battled hard but just didn't have luck in their favour and lost 6-0.

The Storm had to face the first place Shamrocks on Sunday. The Shamrocks were on the board first but the Storm came back and scored two goals, by Hutchinson, assisted by Zander Upton and Degeer, and Boutin, unassisted to take the lead. The Shamrocks scored two in the second to take the lead 3-2. The Storm managed to score one more in the third with Aiden Perrott putting it in the net, assisted by Hall, but the Shamrocks scored four more to take the game 7-3. Solid effort in the net by goalies Damon Harriss and Taylor Consack. The peewees are awaiting the first round schedule for playoffs against the Durham Crusaders. (*Submitted by Ron Hall*).

### Cottage Country Building Supplies/Ridgewood Ford Atom A's

The Storm hosted the Bracebridge Bears at the S.G. Nesbitt arena Jan. 13 and both teams came out for a win. The game remained scoreless until, with nine minutes left, the Bears scored on a power play. However, the Storm

continued on page 15



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# Highland Storm

Continued from page 14

were not giving up that easily because two minutes later, Addison Carr scored on a breakaway and then scored again on an awesome pass from Austin Latanville, making the final score 2-1 Storm.

On Jan. 14, the Storm travelled to Gravenhurst to again face the Bears. The Bears scored one in the middle of the first and another at the beginning of the second. Both teams continued battling, until, finally Brechin Johnston picked up the puck at the red line, skated down the ice and fired it in the net, putting the Storm on the scoreboard. But, the Bears wanted the win and right at the beginning of the third period they scored their third goal. The Storm kept fighting to get another goal, keeping it in the Bear's end, and battling. Carr shot, Latanville snagged the rebound and put it past the goalie. The Storm had eight minutes to tie the game but fell short 3-2.

The next game is their first playoff game at the A.J. LaRue Arena at 2 p.m. vs. the Durham Crusaders. (Submitted by Amber Card).

## Tom Prentice & Sons Trucking Tykes

On Jan. 13, the Storm hosted the Muskoka Rock at the S.G. Nesbitt arena in Minden. Vanek Logan scored the first goal of the game, unassisted. McCartney Saunders then set up Logan to add to the Storm lead. Muskoka rallied with one but Matthew Scheffee passed to Logan for his hat trick goal and a 3-1 Storm lead.

In the second, Easton Burk tucked Luke Gruppe's rebound into the open side of the net. Then, Logan returned the favor to Saunders, setting him up for his first goal of the game. Saunders, assisted by Latanville and Tomlinson, scored again with 20 seconds left in the period

to put the Storm up 6-1.

The third period started with Gruppe skating back hard to catch a Muskoka player and taking the puck before reaching Storm goalie Carter Braun. Off a faceoff win by Latanville, Tomlinson turned and shot on net and the shot was redirected off a Muskoka player into the net.

Latanville then scored the next goal off a rebound with Logan and Tomlinson getting the assists. After Saunders dug hard after the puck, Burk sneaked one through the five-hole of the Rock's goalie. With the help of Latanville, Burk on a breakaway, scored the final goal of the game, getting a hat trick. Final score, 10-1.

The tykes then travelled to Bobcaygeon to face the Sturgeon Lake Thunder – Blacks Jan. 14.

The crowd was treated to a back-and-forth game. Logan gave the Storm the lead after carrying the puck from behind his own net down to the opposite end going top shelf on the Thunder's goaltender. The Thunder fought back, sneaking one in. Evan Perrott picked up the puck at the red line and put it in the net through the five-hole, with the assist going to Zack Prentice. Braun held the lead, coming up big with a glove save. Perrott extended the lead further with the help of Gruppe and Burk. Carrying that momentum, Perrott finished out the first with a hat trick, assisted by Scheffee and Prentice. Latanville passed to Logan who took a shot that bounced off the Thunder goaltender to the stick of Jack Tomlinson who put it in the open side of net. The Thunder were next to score but the Storm were determined to get one back and Logan got the puck to Gruppe who put it in the net. With just seconds left in the second, the Thunder goaltender came up big. Tomlinson scored next with the help of Saunders. Braun pulled off many big saves in the final minutes of the game, stopping multiple Thunder shots. In the end, the Storm over-powered the Thunder 7-4. (Submitted by Jessica Tomlinson)

## Storm reports

## Local league reports

### Atoms

On Jan. 13, Haliburton's two atom teams, Pharmasave Atom 1 and TD Bank Atom II played in a much-anticipated game against each other.

In the first period, Atom 1 started off the scoring with an unassisted goal by Daniel Stephen, but atom II player, Owen Sisson answered back assisted by Eric Mueller and Tobi Posti.

During the second period, Atom 1 scored twice, the first by Haiden Bird assisted by Stephen and Logan Reid followed by an unassisted goal by Lara Gallant.

In the nail-biting third period, the battle began with Atom 1's Gallant scoring unassisted. Atom II answered with a goal by Sisson assisted by Mueller and Olivia Gruppe. Seconds later, Atom II's Ethan Thomas scored again unassisted. Atom 1 came back with a goal by Stephen assisted by Logan Reid and Bird, followed by another Atom 1 goal unassisted by Bird. Reid scored another goal unassisted for Atom 1 and Thomas scored his hat trick for a final score of Pharmasave 7 - TD Bank 5. Congrats to Pharmasave's player of the game, Haiden Bird and TD Bank's player of the game Ethan Thomas. (Submitted by Chris McMartin).

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### Bantams

The Total Site Services bantams hosted the Parry Sound Shamrocks Jan 13. The game started with a bad bounce, putting the Shamrocks on the board first, but Tyler Martin scored on a beautiful shot to tie it. The rest of the period saw a lot of near misses for the Shamrocks but because Darian Maddock's hand-eye coordination was spot on, the Storm remained in a 1-1 tie.

Starting the second, Cody Martin had a nice slow motion goal assisted by Hunter Winder and Nick Phippen. Next was a nice shot by Nick, assisted by Tyler, making the score 3-1 Storm. Cody quickly followed that up with another as did Nick and the Storm were now leading 5-1. Hayley Boylan had an exceptional game, steamrolling and stealing pucks from the Shamrock's sticks, and Kiera Casey guarded the blue line like the Crown Jewels and wasn't afraid to go after the puck or show a little elbow when needed. The game ended with two more goals and some amazing passing. Tyler to Nick allowing Cody a hat trick and then Nick to Kolby McGovern allowing Curtis Mulock a nice goal and another Storm win. (Submitted by Kathy Martin).

**Mark Hamilton**  
Sales Consultant

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# Highland Storm



## The Highlander 3-Stars of the Week



**Kadin Card**



Kadin showed his leadership in Saturday's game, chipping in with an important assist on the game-tying goal and back-checking to the end to seal the game.

**Cheyenne Degeer**



Cheyenne showed why she is so dominant each night, blazing by defenders and driving hard to the net creating plays. She is a possession type player and always seems to have the puck thanks to her great ability to read the play.

**Caleb Manning**



Caleb's stay-at-home defensive style was on display Saturday once again, always keeping the play in front of him as well as keeping the puck in the offensive zone to create more chances for his team. He is a constant learner of the game.

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### Highland Storm playoff games:

Round 1 of the playoffs - best of 5 games  
Midgets vs Wasaga Beach Stars

Game 1: Sunday, Jan. 21 at 3:30 p.m. in Wasaga Beach  
Bantams vs Durham Crusaders

Game 1: Friday, Jan. 19 at 8:45 p.m. in Oshawa at Iroquois Park  
Peewees vs Durham Crusaders

Game 1: Sunday, Jan. 21 at 1:30 p.m. in Haliburton  
Atom vs Durham Crusaders

Game 1: Saturday, Jan. 20 at 2 p.m. in Haliburton  
Atom AE vs Huntsville Otters AE

Game 1: Saturday, Jan. 20 at 12:30 p.m. in Haliburton

Game 2: Sunday, Jan. 21 at 1:40 p.m. in Huntsville



### PHOTO CONTEST

*The Highlander is looking for your best photos for inclusion in this year's  
The Highlander Handbook.*

We are looking for pictures that show the best the Highlands has to offer in all of its seasons.

The best submission will be printed on this year's cover and others inside.  
We are looking for good quality, high resolution photos (JPEG, 300 dpi).

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For more info: 705-457-  
2941.

## EVENTS



SIRCH Community Services is offering the  
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**"READY FOR RETAIL"** Training program  
that runs two days a week beginning  
February 5. In addition to classroom  
training, one day a week you'll be part of a  
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star that retail employers want to hire!

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Ready for Retail, call 705-457-1742 or  
email info@sirch.on.ca

## OBITUARIES

*In Loving Memory of*

### Glen Maxwell Sawyer

Passed away peacefully at Haliburton Hospital on  
Tuesday, January 9, 2018. In his 92nd year.  
Beloved husband of the late Geraldine (nee Howe)  
(2015). Dear father of Roger (deceased) and his wife  
Karen, David and his wife Patricia. Loving grandpa of  
Sheila, Patti and great grandfather of Taylor, Zachery, Korie and Amanda.  
Dear brother of the late Wayne Sawyer and Gwenyth Cameron. Fondly  
remembered by his family and friends.

Friends are invited to visit the family at the Gordon A. Monk Funeral  
Home Ltd., 127 Bobcaygeon Rd., P.O. Box 427, Minden K0M 2K0 on  
Friday from 2:00 until 4:00 pm. A Service to Celebrate Glen's Life was  
held on Saturday, January 13, 2018 at 1:00 pm. Reception followed in  
the Monk-Cray Family Centre at the funeral home. Spring Internment at  
Maple Lake United Church Cemetery.

A Masonic Service will be held on Friday at  
4:00pm at the funeral home.

Memorial Donations to the West Guilford  
Baptist Church would be appreciated by  
the family.



[www.gordonmonkfuneralhome.com](http://www.gordonmonkfuneralhome.com)

## OBITUARIES

### Gordon 'Gord' Lee

*(Resident of Haliburton, Ontario)*

Pearcefully at Haliburton Hospital with his family  
by his side on Tuesday morning, January 9, 2018 in  
his 89th year. Loving husband of Connie Lee (nee Williams).  
Loving father of Pamela, Terry and Tracy (August Myles).  
Fondly remembered by his grandchildren Jason, Tara,  
Alicia and Chase, and his great grandchildren Mateo, Lucas,  
Cenwyn, Cheyenne, Elias and Maysa. Predeceased by parents  
Ernest and Mary Lee, his siblings Ernie, Bert, Bill and Lorraine  
and son-in-law Michael Mayne. Also lovingly remembered by  
daughter-in-law Cindy Mayne, his friend Margaret Twyford  
and his many nieces and nephews. Gord was born November  
30, 1929 and was originally from Toronto. He went to  
Calgary, Alberta to join the Canadian Air Force, a career he  
had seventeen years. He then worked for Old Dutch Potato  
Chips driving a transport truck for twenty three years. Gord &  
Connie moved back to Haliburton, Ontario.

#### Visitation, Funeral Service & Reception

Friends called at the HALIBURTON COMMUNITY  
FUNERAL HOME 13523 Hwy. #118, Haliburton, Ontario  
(705) 457-9209 on Saturday morning, January 13, 2018 for a  
Funeral Service in the Chapel at 12 o'clock. (Visitation one hour  
prior). Reception followed in The Community Room. Spring  
interment Evergreen Cemetery. As  
expressions of sympathy, donations  
to Haliburton Highlands Health  
Services Foundation would be  
appreciated by the family.



### Personal Classifieds

Starting at

\$8  
705-457-2900

## TRAIL CONSTRUCTION

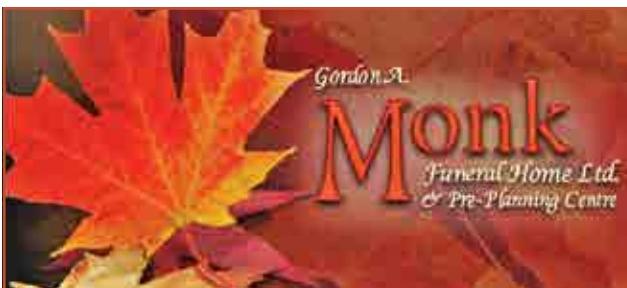
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[www.gordonmonkfuneralhome.com](http://www.gordonmonkfuneralhome.com)

### Personal Classifieds

Starting at

\$8  
705-457-2900

### Emily Skinner (nee Holley)

*(Resident of Minden, Ontario)*

Peacefully at Hyland Crest Nursing Home on  
Saturday evening, December 30, 2017 in her  
85th year. Beloved wife of the late Cecil Skinner. Cherished  
daughter of the late James & Lillian Holley. Loving mother  
of David (Sharon). Predeceased by her sisters Gladys, Mamie  
and her brother Albert. Fondly remembered by her many  
nieces and nephews. Emily worked for Toronto Dominion  
Bank in Toronto as a Manager of Human Resources for many  
years. She enjoyed teaching, leading Bible Study and taught  
Sunday School.

#### Visitation, Memorial Service & Reception

Friends are invited to call at ST. PAUL'S ANGLICAN  
CHURCH 19 Invergordon Avenue Minden, Ontario on  
Saturday morning, January 20, 2018 for a Memorial Service  
at 11 o'clock. Reception to follow in the Church Hall. As  
expressions of sympathy, donations to St. Paul's Anglican  
Church Minden would be appreciated by the family. Funeral  
arrangements have been entrusted to the HALIBURTON  
COMMUNITY FUNERAL HOME  
13523 Hwy. #118, Haliburton,  
Ontario (705) 457-9209.



[www.communityfuneralhomes.com](http://www.communityfuneralhomes.com)

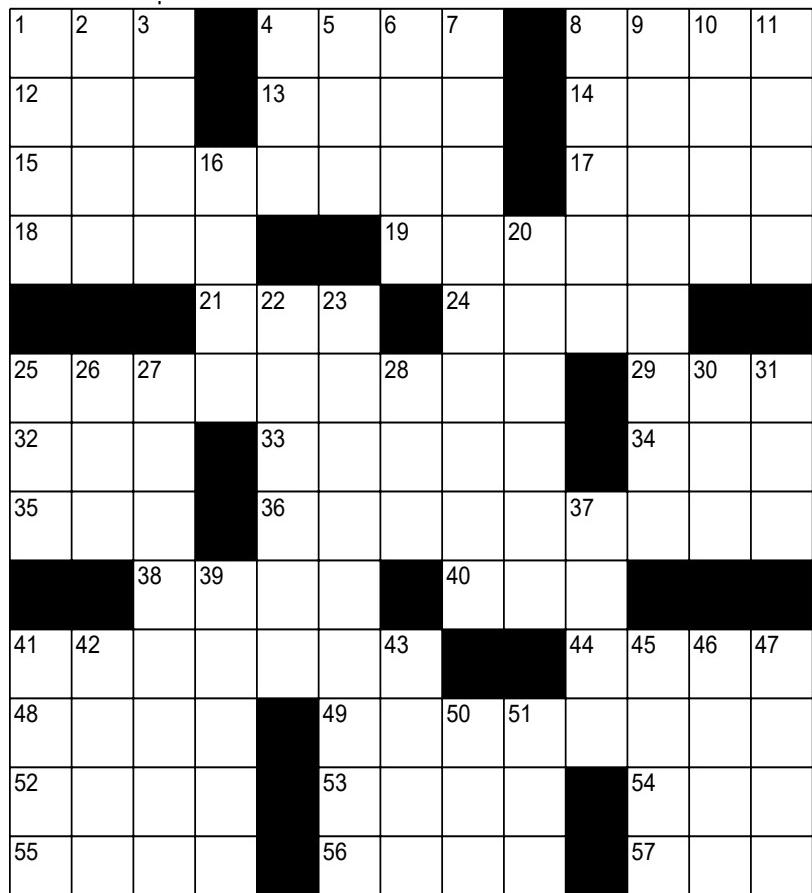
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### ACROSS

- 1. Swiss peak
- 4. \_\_\_\_\_ Fitzgerald
- 8. Far-reaching
- 12. Baseball's \_\_\_\_\_ Gehrig
- 13. Actor \_\_\_\_\_ Penn
- 14. Interested by
- 15. Like a painter
- 17. Fit of temper
- 18. Collections
- 19. Renovate
- 21. Water, to Jacques
- 24. Shoo!
- 25. Take turns
- 29. Rearward
- 32. Baltic, e.g.
- 33. Fiery felony
- 34. Hosiery shade
- 35. Bro or sis
- 36. Symbolize
- 38. Goof off
- 40. Compass pt.
- 41. Germ-free
- 44. Diva's specialty
- 48. Cast a ballot
- 49. Closeness
- 52. Perfume
- 53. Perimeter
- 54. Legendary boxer
- 55. California valley
- 56. Profound
- 57. Round vegetable

### DOWN

- 1. Poor me!
- 2. Traditional knowledge
- 3. Golf stroke
- 4. Double curve
- 5. Permit
- 6. Wild animal's home
- 7. Forefathers
- 8. Sight
- 9. Add comments to
- 10. Mix
- 11. Carry
- 16. Psychic's phrase (2 wds.)
- 20. Panoramas
- 22. Biblical mountain
- 23. Not processed
- 25. Mule's kin
- 26. Maui garland
- 27. Furniture surface
- 28. Venomous viper
- 30. Summer cooler
- 31. Explosive letters
- 37. Graceful bird
- 39. Puccini work
- 41. Stratford-upon-\_\_\_\_\_
- 42. Pop
- 43. Give over
- 45. Gather crops
- 46. \_\_\_\_\_ of Capri
- 47. India's locale
- 50. Get older
- 51. Agent (abbr.)
- 57. Round vegetable

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	8		1		3		5	
	6	1	5	8	7			
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		3				8	9	
			7					2

## PREVIOUS WEEK'S ANSWERS

C	A	P		L	A	B		P	L	A	T	E
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2	7	8	4	6	1	9	3	5
1	5	3	6	7	4	8	9	2
4	2	6	5	8	9	3	1	7
8	9	7	2	1	3	5	4	6

# Highlander sports

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## SNOWSHOEING!

Friday January 26th : INTRO TO SNOWSHOEING!

11:00am-12:00pm

Meet at Scout Hall parking lot (behind the arena). No fee

Friday February 9th: HIKE SNOWDON PARK!

11:00am

Meet in the parking lot (off County Rd #1). No fee

Friday February 23rd : INTRO TO SNOWSHOEING!

11:00am-12:00pm

Meet at Scout Hall parking lot (behind the arena). No fee

*Please note: All snowshoeing programs are dependent on the weather and snow conditions.*

*Snowshoes and walking poles will be available.*

*For more info please call Elisha at 705-286-2298 or  
eweiss@mindenhillsc.ca*



First place, and winners of the J.O. Jackson memorial plaque, were the Haliburton team of skip Dave Connell, vice Peter Byers, second Andy Glecoff and lead Eric Hussey. They are pictured with Jessica Jackson, granddaughter of J.O. Jackson. *Photo submitted.*

## J.O. Jackson Memorial Bonspiel attracts large field

The J.O. Jackson Memorial Bonspiel was held at the Minden Curling Club Dec. 28. Teams came from curling clubs in Minden, Haliburton, Oakwood, Uxbridge, Fenelon Falls and Lindsay, plus some ad hoc teams.

The first draw teams were primarily from Minden and Haliburton curling clubs, plus two ad hoc teams:

First draw - first place and winners of the J.O. Jackson memorial plaque were the Haliburton team of skip Dave Connell, vice Peter Byers, second Andy Glecoff and lead Eric Hussey.

First draw - second place was the Minden team skipped by Scotty Boyd, vice Dave Millington, second Bert Kennedy and lead Ron Bobbie.

First draw - third place was an ad hoc team skipped by Alf Trotter, vice Bob Pollard, second Gord Keene and lead Bob Walli.

Second draw teams were from such far-flung towns as Oakwood, Fenelon Falls, Uxbridge and Lindsay.

Second draw - first place was the Uxbridge team of skip Jim Wood, vice Doug Hoyle, second Glynn Bayliss and lead Tony Morrow.

Second draw - second place winners from Oakwood were skip Jim Breadner, vice Doug Henderson, second Frank Ingram and lead Barry Hobbs.

Second draw - third place was another Uxbridge team skipped by Gary Grant, vice Dave Farr, second Terry Jenkins and lead Dave Farr.

Assisting in prize-giving was the granddaughter of J.O. Jackson, Jessica Jackson.

Convenor Wes Lytle thanked all participants and expressed heartfelt thanks to all support workers at the bonspiel, including the volunteer kitchen staff, bar staff, ice makers and the executive of Minden Curling Club. A delicious lunch from Molly's Bistro was served at two lunch sittings. (*Lisa Gervais*)



## Ice, ice baby

Students are taking to the ice to develop their team skills and learn the fundamentals of curling through an annual program hosted by the Haliburton Curling Club. The program has been going for more than 20 years. Club member and convenor, Bob MacNaull says it's a great feeling seeing kids return each year and get better and better. "It's a fantastic sport for kids to learn," he says. (*Alex Coop*).

Pictured above: Youth take to the curling rink in Haliburton during a recent bonspiel. *Photo by Lisa Gervais*

# Shop local

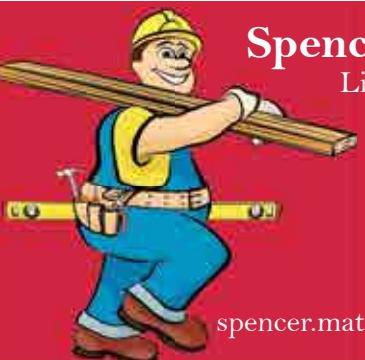
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# What's On

## JANUARY 2018 • EVENT LISTINGS

### Thursday January 18

9:30 – 10:30 a.m. – Free Chair Yoga, at Maple View Apartments, Wilberforce. Contact Community Support Services at 705-457-2941 x2922, or Kathy at 705-448-3652 for more info.

10 – 11 a.m. – Basic Beginner Line Dancing, at Stanhope Firefighters' Community Hall. This is a 10-week course to learn the basic line dancing steps, and how to put them together. Pre-registration required, course costs \$50. Contact Jacqui, ClanceLineDance@gmail.com.

Noon – 2 p.m. – Adult only public skating, at SG Nesbitt Arena, Minden. \$2/person.

1:30 – 3:30 p.m. – CFUW Speaker: Andy Oh, speaking on Sweet and Savoury Korean Treats. Andy will be demonstrating how to cook a few Korean dishes, while members get to watch and learn, and then savour! Takes place at Haliburton United Church. No cost to CFUW members or to women who are not yet members but are considering joining.

5 – 6 p.m. – Zumba at Dorset Recreation Centre, a cardio-dance workout for all ages & abilities. \$5/ person per class. Contact Joanne at 705-766-1546 or email recreation@algonquinhighlands.ca.

6:30 – 8 p.m. – WES Youth Night at Lloyd Watson Centre Wilberforce, for Grades 4-8. Bring indoor shoes and a loonie for charity.

### Friday January 19

10 a.m. - 1 p.m. – Pickleball at Dorset Recreation Centre, a fun, drop-in game. Free to members, \$2.50 for youth/seniors, \$5/adults. Contact 705-766-9968 or recreation@algonquinhighlands.ca.

### Saturday January 20

Therapeutic Touch Level 2 workshop. Continue or refresh your Therapeutic Touch journey! Learn to recognize and understand the meaning of imbalances in the energy field and methods of rebalancing the field to promote health and well being. Contact Susan Keith 705-457-3981 or ch.concepts@sympatico.ca

4 – 7 p.m. – Jeff Moulton in the Clubroom at the Haliburton Legion. 50/50 draw at 6 p.m., enjoy a delicious meal for \$6 by the Ladies Auxiliary. \$5 cover charge for non-members.

### Sunday January 21

Noon – 2 p.m. – Public Skating, at SG Nesbitt Arena, Minden, \$2/person.

12:30 – 2 p.m. – Free Public Skating, at Keith Tallman Arena, Wilberforce.

2 p.m. – Razzamataz Kids' Shows! Presents "Physical Illusions", a fusion of acting and dance. Takes place at Northern Lights Performing Arts Pavilion, Haliburton. See razzamataz.ca for more info or tickets. \$10/adults, \$7/kids (under two, free!)

### Monday January 22

1 – 3:30 p.m. – Pickleball at Dorset Recreation Centre, a fun, drop-in game. Free to members, \$2.50 for youth/seniors, \$5/adults. Contact 705-766-9968 or recreation@algonquinhighlands.ca.

1 – 4 p.m. – Bridge at Stanhope Firefighters' Community Hall. Contact Ross at 705-286-2982 for more info.

### Tuesday January 23

9:30 – 10:30 a.m. – Free Chair Yoga, at Maple View Apartments, Wilberforce. Contact Community Support Services at 705-457-2941 x2922, or Kathy at 705-448-3652 for more info.

10 a.m. - 1 p.m. – Pickleball at Dorset Recreation Centre, a fun, drop-in game. Free to members, \$2.50 for youth/seniors, \$5/adults. Contact 705-766-9968 or recreation@algonquinhighlands.ca.

Noon – 2 p.m. – Adult Only Public Skating, at SG Nesbitt Arena, Minden, \$2/person.

1:30 p.m. – Haliburton County Historical Society guest speaker Jim Mitchell will speak on the History of Canning Lake (part 2 of this talk), takes place at Haliburton Museum.

2 – 3 p.m. – Free Adult/Senior Skating, at Keith Tallman Arena, Wilberforce

5 – 6 p.m. – Ladies Weights Toning Class, at Dorset Recreation Centre. A fun and friendly class for all ages and abilities. Cost is \$5/person/ class. Contact Joanne at jomac6058@gmail. com, or 705-766-1546.

6:30 – 9:30 p.m. – Indoor Archery, upstairs at AJ LaRue Arena – every Tuesday. Children under 18 free, adults Haliburton Highlands Outdoors Association membership \$35. For more info contact HHOA at 705-457-9664.

### Wednesday January 24

9 – 10 a.m. – Free Exercise Program at Oxtongue Lake Community Centre, classes for those 55+ or 65+, part of the VON Smart Exercise program. Space is limited, registration is required. Contact Muskoka Smart 705-787-1996 to register.

10:30 a.m. – Noon – HKPR Health Unit Sexual Health Clinic, providing confidential access to cervical screening, low-cost birth control, pregnancy testing and sexual health testing and teaching. For more info, locations, or to make an appointment call the Health Unit at 1-866-888-4577 ext 2205.

Noon – 2 p.m. – Public Skating, at SG Nesbitt Arena, Minden, \$2/person.

### Thursday January 25

9:30 – 10:30 a.m. – Free Chair Yoga, at Maple View Apartments, Wilberforce. Contact Community Support Services at 705-457-2941 x2922, or Kathy at 705-448-3652 for more info.

Noon – 2 p.m. – Adult only public skating, at SG Nesbitt Arena, Minden. \$2/person.

5 – 6 p.m. – Zumba at Dorset Recreation Centre, a cardio-dance workout for all ages & abilities. \$5/ person per class. Contact Joanne at 705-766-1546 or email recreation@algonquinhighlands.ca.

### January 26 – 28

Canadian National Pond Hockey Championships, Open Weekend. Taking place this year on the Pinestone's pond. Register a team at canadapondhockey.ca, or come on out and cheer on your favourites!

### Friday January 26

10 a.m. - 1 p.m. – Pickleball at Dorset Recreation Centre, a fun, drop-in game. Free to members, \$2.50 for youth/seniors, \$5/adults. Contact 705-766-9968 or recreation@algonquinhighlands.ca.

### Sunday January 27

10 a.m. – 3 p.m. – Hardwater Festival, at West Guilford Recreation Centre and Abbey Gardens. Family fun, active learning & outdoor adventure! See hardwaterfestival.ca for details, schedule and activities being planned.

### Sunday January 28

Noon – 2 p.m. – Public Skating, at SG Nesbitt Arena, Minden, \$2/person.

12:30 – 2 p.m. – Free Public Skating, at Keith Tallman Arena, Wilberforce.

6:30 p.m. – Robbie Burns Night at the Haliburton Legion, with the Haliburton Highlanders Pipes & Drums. "A wee taste of the Highlands!" Doors open at 6:30 p.m., entertainment starts at 7 p.m. \$15 per person, tickets available at the door.

### Monday January 29

1 – 3:30 p.m. – Pickleball at Dorset Recreation Centre, a fun, drop-in game. Free to members, \$2.50 for youth/seniors, \$5/adults. Contact 705-766-9968 or recreation@algonquinhighlands.ca.

1 – 4 p.m. – Bridge at Stanhope Firefighters' Community Hall. Contact Ross at 705-286-2982 for more info.

### Tuesday January 30

10 a.m. - 1 p.m. – Pickleball at Dorset Recreation Centre, a fun, drop-in game. Free to members, \$2.50 for youth/seniors, \$5/adults. Contact 705-766-9968 or recreation@algonquinhighlands.ca.

Noon – 2 p.m. – Adult Only Public Skating, at SG Nesbitt Arena, Minden, \$2/person.

## ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION EVENTS

### HALIBURTON BRANCH

Monday bridge 1p.m.

Tuesday dart league starting at 7 p.m.

Wednesday bid euchre 1 p.m. start, bingo doors open at 6 p.m., bingo starts at 7 p.m. - \$500 jackpot, \$1000 jackpot - last Wednesday of the month.

Thursday general meeting third Thursday of the month starting at 7 p.m. All members urged to attend. Ladies auxiliary last Thursday of the month at 1 p.m.

Friday meat draw - five draws, five prizes each draw, first draw at 4:30 p.m., last draw at 6:30 p.m., tickets \$2 per draw ... Chester Howse, MC.

Friday cribbage 1 p.m. start and fun darts - 4:30 p.m. onwards

Saturday 50/50 4 p.m. draw, tickets \$1 each from noon onwards

Sunday breakfast second and fourth Sunday of the month – 9:30 a.m. – 1 p.m. \$6 per person. Occasional volunteers are needed.

Upcoming events: Robbie Burns night, Saturday Jan. 27 in the main hall. Enjoy a taste of haggis and a buffet dinner, scotch tasting, pipes & drums, Scottish music and dancing. Doors open at 6:30 p.m., entertainment starts at 7 pm. Tickets are \$15 per person available at the door.

Whether you're planning a function for 10 or 200, for more information call the Legion today at (705) 457-2571, email rcl129@bellnet.ca or visit haliburtonlegion.com Come on out and support Haliburton Legion Branch 129 ... everyone is welcome.

### MINDEN BRANCH

Special entertainment this week: Karaoke with Fred and Linda, Friday, Jan. 19, from 7:30-11 p.m.. On Saturday, Jan. 20, from 2-5 p.m., after the meat draw, open mic will entertain you.

Ladies darts have resumed, Wednesday afternoon at 1 p.m. Monday-every second week rug hooking; Tuesday, seniors art classes 10 a.m., bid euchre 1 p.m.; Wednesday, meat draw noon; Thursday, mixed darts and euchre 7 p.m.; Friday 7 p.m. mixed darts; Saturday, meat draw 1 p.m.; Sunday, sports day noon. Lunches every Mon.-Fri, with Friday featuring fish and chips and chicken wings also served 5-7 p.m. Take-out available. Everyone welcome.

### WILBERFORCE BRANCH

Jan. 19 Pool 1:30 p.m. Everyone welcome. Spaghetti dinner 5 -7 p.m.

Jan. 20 Meat draw 2 p.m. - Early bird 3 p.m. sharp

Jan. 22 Bid euchre 7 p.m.

Jan. 24 Fun darts 7:30 p.m.

Jan. 25 Youth group 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.

**In the market to buy a home or cottage?  
Feel free to give me a call to discuss how  
my experience can work for you.**

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Broker

**705-457-0364**

**lisa@lisamercer.ca**

**DON'T KEEP  
ME A SECRET!**



# Highlander community



Left: Event organizer Pamela Marsales, far right, helps volunteers prepare for the festivities. Right: Guests mingle as the event gets underway. Photos by Mark Arike.

## 'Stone Soup' a savoury success

Freezing rain didn't stop a crowd from enjoying an evening of food, drinks, live music and storytelling at the Lochlin Community Centre on Jan. 10. About 40 people packed the tiny space for "Stone Soup," an event to celebrate the Haliburton County Rail Trail. Music was provided by Chad Ingram, Hugh Taylor and Tim Tofflemire. Jim Blake and Fay Wilkinson were the featured storytellers. "There was a great sense of rail trail community alive in the room—which was the idea of the event," said organizer Pamela Marsales. Beverages were provided by Haliburton Highlands Brewing and door prizes were given out. (Mark Arike)

## Community support for auto shop at Hal High

Bruce Verstege of Ideal Supply in Haliburton, hands over the keys to Phil Dulong, automotive teacher at Haliburton Highlands Secondary School, for a Dodge Dakota. Verstege has donated the truck to automotive students so they can further their understanding and application of automotive repair. Photo submitted by Rebecca Millar.



## Realtors helping the homeless

The Lakelands Real Estate Board donated \$5,000 to Places for People (P4P) last week. Pictured handing over the cheque is realtor Lindsay Elder and receiving is John Rogers of P4P, with representatives of both realtors and P4P in the background on Jan. 11. Photo by Lisa Gervais.

**Wherever you go, share the ride.**

**Now get text & email alerts!**

[www.haliburtonrideshare.ca](http://www.haliburtonrideshare.ca)

30 minutes of daily physical activity reduces risk of heart disease & more. It only takes about 12 mins to walk, or 4 mins to cycle 1km.

Improving conditions for walking, cycling & public transportation has many health benefits.

**Haliburton County Community Transportation Hub**

Need to get somewhere? Don't have a ride? We can help.

[www.transportationhaliburtoncounty.ca](http://www.transportationhaliburtoncounty.ca)  
705-455-2665 or 1-844-771-RIDE (7433) toll-free



Haliburton  
Highlands  
Land Trust  
*protecting the land we love  
for future generations*

739 Mountain St.,  
PO Box 1478  
Haliburton, ON  
K0M 1S0  
(705) 457-3700

## LAND TRUST DISCOVERY DAYS 2018

### Paws, Poop, and Other Animal Clues!

Explore animal tracks, scat and other signs of life at Abbey Gardens. Have fun matching poop to paws. Enjoy a taste of our sample critter poop rolled out from our special dough. Dress for the weather. If conditions allow, we will visit a nearby forest to use our wildlife sleuthing skills. Please register at [haliburtonlandtrust.ca](http://haliburtonlandtrust.ca) under the events tab or call 705-457-3700.



Media Partner - The Highlander

Saturday, February 3rd  
10:00am- 12:00pm

Admission by donation. Your generous support allows us to continue to offer these educational and fun programs.



TD Friends of the  
Environment  
Foundation

# Linda Baumgartner

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Impeccable 3BR home. Great space for entertaining inside & out. Features a theatre! Dbl att garage. Great location.  
**\$499,000**

### LITTLE GLAMOR LAKE



SOLD  
Custom designed 2 story cottage. Great spot for relaxation. Well used privacy and excellent beach.

**\$469,000**

### GULL RIVER, MINDEN



Lovely level riverfront lot near Minden. Boat launch, dock, great access for year round home or getaway.  
Good building site ready to go.

**\$115,900**

### COTTAGE PLUS BUNKIE



Enjoy cottage living with this cozy 4 season cottage and large bunkie with many upgrades.  
Municipal access to Miskwabi Lake across the road.

**\$174,000**

### VACANT LAND & WATERFRONT

**North Shore Road 2.8 Acres... \$49,000**

**Maple Lake Access .79 Acres... \$34,500**

**Salerno Lake Access .45 Acres... \$25,000**

**Hwy 503 Building Lot 1.33 Acres... \$14,900**

### A WORD FROM OUR CLIENTS

Thank you for making this sale very easy. I could tell the first time I talked to you that you are a no-nonsense straight up business person, and will always appreciate your honesty.

Thanks again! – Scott S.